

Dear St. Mary's Families,

As you know, we at St. Mary's Catholic School recently embarked on the process of hiring a new principal. As the chair of the School Board, I had the privilege of working with many people throughout this process and, now that we have found our new principal, I would like to share some of my experience with the community and thank all of those involved. I would also like to give our new principal, Greg Ahmann an opportunity to share with you more about himself.

To begin, I want to thank Mrs. Sandy Izzo for all that she has done for the school over the years, and I am so grateful that she will continue to serve our students as a teacher in our school. I know she is loved by many and will continue to make a positive impact on the school.

Regarding the process of searching for a new principal; whether through your volunteer efforts, your official duties, or through your prayers for the school, it has truly been a collaborative effort. To all members of the board, the staff, and other volunteers who provided input and worked to make this effort successful, you have my deepest gratitude.

I am thankful to Tammy Emerich, our superintendent, and Father Benjamin, our pastor, for their wisdom in helping us through the process; to ensure that we were following diocesan policies throughout, for screening initial candidates, and for helping to form a solid interview team to do a final evaluation of all qualified candidates and give our recommendation to the diocese.

Thank you to our interview team consisting of Father Benjamin (Pastor), Tammy Emerich (Superintendent), Tom Ristine (Board Chair), Peggy Quesnell (Staff), Danette Swam (Teacher/Parent), and Denise Hammrich (All Saints Catholic School Principal). Your efforts helped us to do a thorough evaluation of the candidates and I am so pleased on the unanimous recommendation that we made to hire Greg Ahmann as our new principal.

I know you will find, as we did, that Greg is faith-filled and ready to push forward the mission and Catholic identity of the school. He is a leader who can make positive change in the school, build support in the community, and ensure that the school continues to grow and operate with vitality. Greg has a demonstrated track record of successful leadership in his lengthy career and has offered numerous references from former superiors and peers that confirm the positive impact he has had on the organizations that he has been involved in. I am so grateful for his decision to come out of retirement and pour himself whole-heartedly into our school to ensure its success well into the future.

Sincerely,

Tom Ristine

St. Mary's School Board - Chair